

# VANDEBURG METHODIST CHURCH CARRYING THE CROSS



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## WITNESSES OF THE KINGDOM

By Kari Howard | Interim GMC Conference Superintendent

Jesus had spent 40 days with the disciples after the resurrection. He presented Himself alive and gave proof of the Kingdom of God. But one question remained: “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6 ESV).

Jesus didn’t answer their question. Instead, He redirected their focus. “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>s</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

The disciples were expecting an earthly kingdom, a geographic territory, a temporal reign. The Gospel message was that Jesus was restoring Israel, and the world, to the Kingdom of God. As for the Kingdom, Jesus began His earthly ministry announcing for all to “repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is here” (Matthew 4:17). As to territory, He reminded Nicodemus that “God so loved the world that He sent His Son that whoever believes will have eternal life” (John 3:16). As to reign, Jesus said to the religious leaders of the day, “Before Abraham was, I am” (John 8:58).

“We are called to be witnesses of the Gospel, but this witness was never meant to be shared alone.”  
Kari Howard

# Witnesses of the Kingdom

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Revelation 11:15 reminds us, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever."

Disciples of Jesus, we are still the vessels of the same Gospel message. We are still called to be His witnesses in this day. Jesus is the only One who saves by His death on the cross. He is the only way to the eternal Kingdom of God through His resurrection. He is the only One who brings lasting peace and power to live in the temporal world in spite of the circumstances because He has overcome the world ahead of us.

We are called to be witnesses of the Gospel, but this witness was never meant to be shared alone. Individuals cannot spread the Good News by themselves. Clergy cannot do it alone. It takes the whole church! **The Gospel is meant to be spoken boldly and joyfully, and it is meant to be heard and seen by a people who believe and are so committed to Jesus, lives are transformed.**

When more than 400 Global Methodist Churches across North Carolina gather around this shared mission, growing deeper in love with Jesus and living out His transforming grace, it is worth asking: What might change? What would our communities look like if the Kingdom was not only proclaimed, but practiced?

It is still the same commission:

"You will receive power."

"You will be My witnesses..."

In Christ,

**Kari Howard**

Interim Conference Superintendent



*"Because every disciple has a mission, and the mission is to be a messenger."*

--Rev. Kari Howard

## Study of Acts

Preacher Buddy is beginning a Bible Study on one of his favorite books, Acts. The study will kick-off on Tues. May 12 at 1:00 p.m. Subsequent weeks will meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. He has the material so there is no cost. All are welcome and participants should read Acts chapter 1 by 5/12!



## VANDEBURG METHODIST CHURCH

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Mooresville, NC 28115



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Rev. Buddy Compton  
704.791.1189 call/text

Staff:

Jill Lowe - Church and Finance Secretary



Follow Us on Facebook!  
[@vanderburgofmooreville](https://www.facebook.com/vanderburgofmooreville)

Watch our 10:00am services each week on our channel at  **YouTube** [@vanderburgchurch1809](https://www.youtube.com/vanderburgchurch1809) or stream it later in the week on our website.

# EASTER@vanderburg



“He is not here; for He is risen, as He said.” Matthew 28:6



Thank you church family! Because of your generous donations of candy, eggs, and your time, we were able to prepare over 900 stuffed eggs for our Easter Egg Fest. We had 20 children with a total of 50 attendees join us for a wonderful time of fellowship, beginning with a Bible story and prayer before enjoying egg dyeing, an egg hunt, crafts, and refreshments.

"It was a great turnout! We were especially excited to welcome two new families who found us on Facebook: they were impressed and are already looking forward to future events. Thank you for helping us create such a meaningful and joyful experience for our community.

- Outreach Team"

Easter was a beautiful time of celebrated our Risen Savior!

Starting with the Good Friday service, the Saturday Easter Egg Fest, to more than 42 in attendance for our Sunrise Service and all who gathered for our combined worship service, it was meaningful and celebratory! Praise be to God!



# CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The Circle of Friends gathered for our April meeting on Monday April 13 with a delay due to Easter. We were blessed with 12 ladies in attendance. Crystal Davis provided scrumptious refreshments and Sandra Smith did a beautiful devotion regarding prayer. It was very touching and appropriate for all.

In business, we are excited to host the Blood Drive Wednesday April 29 from 2 pm - 6 pm in the fellowship hall. We asked Jill to share the event with our other local Global Methodist churches. Jeanne Miller and Sherry Armstrong provided their officer reports. They were approved by all.

We are doing a joint Chicken BBQ meal jointly with Methodist Men to raise money for our chimes repair. This will be held Saturday May 16 with eat in or take out available. The ladies signed up to bring sides of baked bean, slaw, rolls and desserts. Tea and water are the offered drinks. We also agreed to feed VBS on Thursday. Melissa and Sherridan Fulbright approved our handling that.

Our rescheduled fellowship craft day has been reschedule for Thursday April 23 1:30 pm - 3 pm in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

Finally, as a nod to traffic we are going to adjust our meeting times based on daylight savings time. May thru October we will meet at 6:30 pm while November thru April we meet at 6 pm. Our next meeting with be May 4 at 6:30 pm with ladies of all ages invited.

Blessings to all,

*Stacy Pierce*



**Mon. May 4 | 6:30 PM**  
**Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall**

The Circle of Friends women's group that meets monthly to enjoy a time of fellowship, ministry and prayer. They are integral to the mission of the church, and you will find them at work at most every church event.

On Mother's Day, we want to honor you!  
Thank you for all you do for your family and community! This special recognition will be held at both the 8:00AM & 10:00AM services.



Many of you are probably not aware that we no longer utilize Safe Sanctuary for our child safety training.

The Global Methodist Church uses Ministry Safe, a child safety program designed to reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

Over the last few weeks, several individuals have been working to put into place training for volunteers who have been identified as working with children. The process for training includes a background check, an online video training and concludes with reviewing the new Safety Policies Manual with Susan Fogleman. In addition to members working with children, this training will also be utilized for all who volunteer for VBS.

We appreciate your support as Vanderburg completes these measures to assure parents that we care about the safety of their children.

## Memorial Day Sunday May 24

We will be honoring our former military on Sun. May 24. The congregation is encouraged to bring in framed photos of their loved ones who served in the armed forces and who have gone on to Glory. There will be special recognition during both our 8:00AM & 10:00AM Worship Services.



## Special Thanks

The following thank you notes were received in appreciation for the monetary gifts received by these families from Vanderburg and the congregation.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity! You helped bring light to a dark period in our lives. Our family greatly appreciates you!

*Phoebe + Family*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the love offering. This gift was such a blessing and it helped out in a great way. Eric and I feel so loved by our church family at Vanderburg Methodist Church. May God Bless you for your spirit of giving. We love you!  
In Christ,

*Eric and Torie Simelton*

## Welcome Baby Heidi!



Thank you church for showering Baby Heidi and the Naas family with so much love on April 12, 2026. We had a wonderful turnout of around 35 attendees (including drop-ins), and it was such a joy to gather in celebration. Most importantly, we are grateful for the opportunity to support and nurture a growing family within our congregation.

A special thank you to Melissa Fulbright and Katy Smith for helping the Young Adults host such a beautiful event! We couldn't have done it without you!

- Young Adults Class

**EAT-IN  
OR  
TO GO**

# FUNDRAISER DINNER

ENJOY BBQ CHICKEN,  
BAKED BEANS, COLESLAW, ROLLS,  
BEVERAGES & DESSERTS

**SAT. MAY 16 | 5:00-7:00 PM**  
**JACK OVERCASH FELLOWSHIP HALL**

ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO  
REPAIRS/UPGRADES OF CHURCH CHIMES.

HOSTED BY THE CIRCLE OF FRIENDS & THE VANDERBURG METHODIST MEN

## REMEMBERING IN PRAYER



Thank you for remembering the following individuals in prayer. You will find a complete list of names posted in our Prayer Room (room 108) each month.

All are invited to use the prayer room to pray for these and others. If you need to add someone for prayer, please contact the church office.

Buzzy Benfield  
Gene & Janice Brawley  
Ezra Brawley  
Brenda Byrd  
Laura Carriker  
Doris Cockrell  
The Family of Phil Coleman  
The Family of Vickie Cook  
Laquita Edmonds  
Mike & Lottie Freeze  
Sherridan Fulbright  
Nate Garrett  
Sarah Grady  
Marie Hedrick  
Shirley Key  
Brenda Keyser  
Susan Koury  
Dwight Neill  
Christine Osborne  
Rick Owens  
Linda Overcash  
Terry & Cindy Pardew  
Stacey Pierce  
Rev. Robert Pierre  
Stacey Robinette  
Wayne & Sandra Sherrill  
Greg Whitfield  
Patsy Zeggert



# FROM THE CHURCH CALENDAR

## WEEKLY WORSHIP

Vanderburg offers 2 weekly worship services on Sunday.

8:00 A.M.

A more relaxed service with contemporary worship songs.

10:00 AM

A blended service enjoys worship with traditional hymns & contemporary worship songs.



1

Movie Night Fri. May 1 at 7:00 PM.

4

The Circle of Friends Women's Ministry meets Mon. May 4 at 6:00PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

10

The Vanderburg Methodist Men meet Sun. May 10 at 7:00AM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

12

A study of Acts kicks off Tue. May 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM. Subsequent weeks meet on Tuesdays at 10:00AM

15

Celebrating our Preschool Graduation Fri. May 15 at 9:30AM in the Sanctuary

16

BBQ Chicken Fundraiser Sat. May 16 starting at 5:00PM until 7:00PM

17

Tom Carriker & Susan Overcash Wedding Sun. May 17 at 3:00PM

25

The Church Office is closed in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

26

Administrative Council Meeting on Tue. May 26 at 6:30PM

TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES

*Susan Overcash  
and  
Tom Carriker*

invite you to celebrate their wedding

Sunday, May 17, 2026  
At 4:00 PM

*Vanderburg Methodist Church*

1809 Charlotte Highway  
Mooresville, NC 28115

*Reception to follow*

The only gift we request is the gift  
of prayer as we begin our life together.

# SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS



Happy  
Birthday

- 1 - Dean Robinson & Butch Bailey
- 3 - Nancy Brawley & Kody Neill
- 6 - Sara Grady, Alexander Black, Alexis Jones & Harley Naas
- 8 - Shawn Lautner
- 9 - Christopher Beaver
- 10 - David Edmonds, Zack Hayes & Wanda Rust
- 11 - Cathy West & Monte Compton
- 12 - Michelle Christenberry & Jeanne Miller
- 13 - Annabelle Black
- 14 - Bo Shinn
- 15 - Dawn Bailey
- 16 - Becky Insogna
- 22 - Debbie Bowers
- 25 - Wayne Moore & Haley Freeze
- 26 - Phil Hampton
- 28 - Laura Carriker & Veronica Naas
- 29 - Barry Winecoff
- 30 - Isabella Pulver
- 31 - Mitchell Mayhew, Madison Dagenhart & Caleb Weddington



## May 1

Chris & Amber Church

## May 2

Robert & Jeanne Miller

## May 3

John & Alice Freeze

Daniel & Jessica Trantham

## May 7

Kevin & Heather Hunsucker

## May 9

John & Marguerite Beyerle

## May 11

Jeff & Christine Merkel

## May 12

Justin & Katherine West

## May 13

John & Julia Williams

## May 17

John & Mary Waugh

## May 18

Jerry & Cynthia Lyman

## May 21

Jack & Karla Kaufman

## May 23

Michael & Susan Koury

Scott & Sarah Walker

Thank you for being God's guiding light, transforming the world through  
God's unconditional love.



# JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School 9:00 AM hour offers classes for all ages! Choose from any of these classes geared to help you dig deeper in the Word!



We need volunteers to help us meet our Ministry Safe Guidelines in the kids Sunday School class. We just need your presence. You will not have to help with the class or prepare a lesson. If enough are willing to serve, a schedule will be made.



As a church, we need to have a nursery available for visitors as well as church members. See Susan Fogleman if you are interested in helping with this ministry. The service is streamed live, for nursery workers to enjoy.

## CHILDREN & PRE-TEEN



Our children use the series All-in-One Sunday School, designed for preschool-12 yrs old and beginning January 4, they will start a road trip through the Bible. Let's invite others to join them in room 115 on the Preschool Hall.

Anyone is welcome to stop by any Sunday to give the leaders a hand! We know they would appreciate it!

## YOUNG ADULT CLASS

Vanderburg's Young Adult class is reaching out to the community and planning events and get together as they grow closer to Christ. Can't wait to see all the great things that they will be doing!

The class meets in room 107, and all young adult singles and couples are invited.

## BOB COMBS CLASS

The Bob Combs Class offers a quarterly curriculum for older adults 60+. Dig deeper into Scripture with the Bible Studies for Life, a resource featuring in-depth Bible exposition on the passages studied in this book.

They are looking for people to serve as leaders for our weekly lesson on Sunday morning. Prayerfully consider joining us as we worship together.

## CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

The Christian Outreach Class chooses a variety of topics; from Word studies on Bible Books or deciding on a study by a respected teacher. The group is made up of all age Adults.

They are lead by Marguerite Beyerle and Bradley Mills and meet in room 110.

## ADULT BIBLE CLASS

The Adult Bible Class offers a quarterly curriculum for adult men and women. The study offers opportunities to deeper explore the truths found in God's Word.

Many help facilitate the weekly discussions and lessons. You can find them in room 104.



# FINANCES

## Gifts Made to Vanderburg

Thank you to the donors who made gifts to Vanderburg during the month of April:

### In Honor of:

Gifts were given to the General Fund in honor of Christine Osborne by Lloyd & Sandra Smith

Gifts were given to the General Fund in honor of Christine Osborne by Janice Brawley.

Gifts were given to the General Fund in honor of the following by Wayne & Sandra Sherrill: Tony & Susan Fogleman, Paul Neill's Birthday, Brenda Byrd, & Beverly Mayhew. Also, In Appreciation of Eric Brawley, Stacey Robinette & Melissa & Sherridan Fulbright.

### In Memory of:

Gifts were given to the General Fund in memory of Phil Coleman by: Wayne & Sandra Sherrill

## April Financial Snapshot

Income	\$ 16,206
Expenses	\$ 17,839
Budgeted per Month	\$ 21,996

Monthly Finance Reports can be found in the Narthex the first Sunday of each month. All questions can be directed to the Finance Chair, Linda Wilhelm.

If mailing your Tithes and Offerings, please send to:  
Vanderburg Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 294 | Mooresville, NC 28115

### 2 CORINTHIANS 9:8 (NIV)

And God is able to  
bless you  
abundantly, so that  
in all things at all  
times, having all  
that you need, you  
will abound in every  
good work.

[pattifagan.com](http://pattifagan.com)





# MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Your gifts and donations are greatly appreciated as we continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus! May God bless you abundantly!

Vanderburg budget funds to annually support FeedNC, Christian Mission, Samaritan's Purse and WNC Hurricane Relief. We regularly receive newsletters highlighting the work they do in support of individuals and families. In addition to these regular Mission contributions, our Circle of Friends and the Vanderburg Methodist Men make contributions to other worthwhile organizations.

## 1 Supporting FeedNC

At FeedNC, one of their services is the Veteran's Farmers Market; providing fresh vegetables for our veteran service members. You can find dates for the upcoming markets on their Facebook page.

## 2 Supporting Christian Mission

Christian Mission is participating in the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers! On Saturday, May 9, you can help by simply placing a bag of non-perishable food next to your mailbox, and your letter carrier will take care of the rest.

## 3 Supporting Samaritan's Purse

From a Facebook post, we learned that Samaritan's Purse recently rebuilt a bridge that had washed out during Hurricane Helene. The bridge allowed over a dozen households and one local business to cross the Watauga River. Since Hurricane Helene, Samaritan's Purse has provided 68 brand-new bridges and completed 200 culvert projects for families affected by the storm.

## 4 Our Daily Bread

Each quarter, you can find daily devotions from Our Daily Bread available to the Vanderburg family, and because it has been made available, you're joining thousands around the world studying God's Word. Through Vanderburg's partnership with this organization, we help print and distribute nearly 10 million *Our Daily Bread* booklets, connecting people in all nations to the timeless, universal truth of scripture.

Recently, we received their monthly newsletter, and in it contained a power testimony of how the Our Daily Bread Devotional affected Andrew, as shared by his mom, Renee.

"For Years I handed my son Andrew copies of Our Daily Bread. I slipped them into his bag, mailed them to his home, passed them along whenever I could. He always accepted them politely, but they mostly sat unread. Then came the difficult months-heavy, trying circumstances that pressed hard on his heart.

One day, in the middle of that struggle, he picked up the devotional I had given him. This time, something in its pages reached him. Not long after, he rededicated his life to Jesus and surrendered his will to God.

Andrew began sharing his Our Daily Bread with a friend. The two started meeting every morning for coffee and devotions. Soon their little table for two grew--three more people asked to join them and suddenly, they were gathering for what had become an everyday Bible Study.

Seeing what God was doing through one simple devotional stirred something in me, too. Thank you for your dedication to this mission. God is using it in ways I never imagined. **My prayer is simple: that we'll be bold in our witness and that God will help us carry light into dark places.**" - Renee | West Virginia



# Vanderburg Church Preschool

vumcpreschool@gmail.com

704.664.1625

Directors: Susan Fogleman & Angelene Nelson



## Celebrating the End of School



We are now in countdown mode. It's hard to believe that the school year is so close to coming to an end. Time flies when you're having fun! Our Pre-K class will graduate on May 15. All are invited to join us in the sanctuary at 9:30 AM.



Thank you to everyone who purchased bundt cakes. We surpassed our goal of 200 sold! We appreciate your support.



For our last field trip of the year, we are heading to Rescue Ranch in Statesville. Rescue Ranch is a non-profit organization that specializes in humane education programs promoting compassion for all animals. Children are allowed to pet the inside animals, feed the barn animals, and do crafts. The highlight of the trip is the region's only inclusive playground designed for children with special needs but suitable for all children.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Field Trip to Rescue Ranch  
May 1

Last Day of School for  
2's and 3's.  
May 14

Pre-K Graduation  
May 15 at 9:30am

Teacher Work Days  
May 18-22

## Earth Day

Earth Day was celebrated on April 22. Our Bible lesson was about God creating the Earth. The children enjoyed crafts, story time, and painting rocks. Thank you Mr. Tony for prepping the rocks for us!





Join us this summer for Vanderburg's VBS,  
"One Nation Under God!"

Celebrate America's 250th birthday while learning about our country's history and relevance of the Bible. VBS is not possible without volunteers, so we thank you in advance. If you are able to help out, please reach out to Sherridan Fulbright. We are very excited to create lasting memories this year!

- Outreach Team"



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TO: